

## THE MARBLE HILL PRESS.

J. S. HILL, Business Manager.

MARBLE HILL, - - MISSOURI.

The bicycle and corset don't go on the same trip.

Dudes are somewhat envious because bloomers don't bag at the knees.

General Campos is still licking the boots of belligerent Cubans by telegraph.

Two thirds of all the letters written in the world every day are written in the English language.

A jaw-bone six feet long has been unearthed at Troy, N. Y. Its owner must have been a power in his ward.

Late reports from the Chicago civil-service board say the members are suffering from an acute attack of impediment of action.

Judging from newspaper pictures, the Bannock Indians are gentle creatures who wear skirts and have never heard of the new woman.

A Rochester law firm has discharged its stenographer for appearing in the office in bloomers. She probably used a diamond-frame typewriting machine.

Cornelius Vanderbilt has 1,100 chickens. This is a pretty good start, and, with proper management, Mr. Vanderbilt may succeed in making a decent living.

Mr. Richard Croker thinks there is a good deal of corruption in English politics. If there is a man who knows corruption when he sees it, that man is Croker.

There were four rounds in the fight between Mr. and Mrs. Corbett. First, matrimony; second, acrimony; third, testimony; fourth, alimony. This is a "knock-out" for Jim.

The people of New York, for some reason or other, are discussing the propriety of changing the city's name. A Cleveland paper appropriately suggests that they call it East Chicago.

The natural result of the new-woman movement is beginning to make itself felt in the West. A man in Muncie, Ind., is suing his wife for divorce on the grounds of cruelty and neglect. It is the first time.

and. Sue went into town last week for the first time in fifteen years. It would be safe to say that she didn't wear bloomers.

In ascribing all the mysterious disappearances of this hemisphere to Holmes mistakes will be avoided by remembering that he has been in jail and out of the "mysterious disappearance" promotion business for some months.

Those five Ohio legislators who refused to accept salaries for the year because there had been no session of the assembly may have figured on reaping a much larger reward from posing in dime museums as political freaks.

English authorities are of the opinion that Americans do not enjoy sport. Don't they, though? These authorities should see the enjoyment the Americans derive from a new cockney. They can make sport of things the English never could make anything of.

Mrs. Sarah Twogood, one of the few remaining pensioners of the war of 1812, in which her husband served, celebrated her 92d birthday at Rockford, Ill., recently. She is still active and healthy. This is one instance of where the too good did not die young.

Jerry Coleman, a widower with ten children, was married the other day to Maggie Fitzgerald at Green Bay, Wis. At first we thought that Maggie was getting the worst of it, but come to find out she was a widow and also had ten children, which makes a pretty even match. But what a long dining-room table Jerry will have to have!

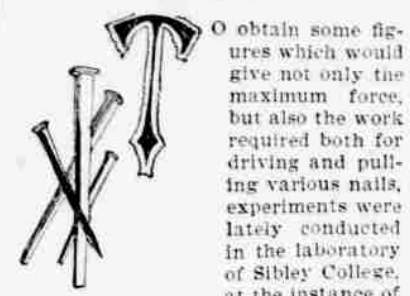
Johany Weldon, cashier of a savings bank at Willimantic, Conn., pocketed \$30,000 the other evening, locked up the bank, straddled a bicycle, hurriedly left town on the road leading to Canada, and hasn't been heard of since. Depositors to the number of 3,200 are anxiously awaiting to learn his new address.

It is announced that an agreement has been concluded at Paris between Americans and Russian petroleum firms by which all the kerosene trade of the Mediterranean, Sweden, and Norway will be given to Russia. In the remainder of Europe Russia is to export 35 per cent and America 65 per cent of the kerosene needed. This is one of the necessities of life monopolized by a trust that controls the oil business of the whole world.

## SCIENCE UP TO DATE.

### SOME RECENT INVENTIONS AND DISCOVERIES.

Experiments at Drawing Nails—The Heron a Wading Bird—A Shaft Aligning Improvement—Current Notes of the Industrial World.



R. C. Carpenter, Nails of various kinds were forced into a piece of Southern pine, which was as nearly homogeneous as was possible to obtain.

In making experiments it was noticed that the cut nail bruised and broke the fibers of the wood, principally at the end of the nail, whereas the wire nail simply crowded them apart, and probably did not move them much beyond the point from which they would return by elastic force, and hence the nail would be grasped much stronger per unit of area of surface by the wood. Presenting less surface, there would be, however, less resistance to starting.

To see what the effect of the change of form would be, a number of tenpenny cut nails were sharpened on the point by grinding to an angle of about thirty degrees, so that the fibers in advance of the nail would be thrust aside, and not bruised or broken. This served to increase the holding power, as will be seen by the experiment, over the cut nail of ordinary shape, about fifty per cent in starting force, and about thirty per cent in work of resistance to pulling.

**The Heron.**  
The heron is a wading bird of the family Ardeidae and the old genus Ardea (Linn.), including also the bitterns and egrets. The food of the heron consists largely of fish and reptiles, but it will eat small mammals, such as mice and even water rats. There was found in the stomach of one of these birds seven small trout, a mouse and a thrush. Eels are also a favorite food with the heron, but on account of their long, lithe bodies they are usually taken to shore and killed by pounding on the rocks or the ground. The heron is able to disgorge its food, and when pursued by birds of prey often resorts to this measure. When looking for food the heron usually stands in shallow water, where it remains immovable for a long time, but when it sees a fish or other kind of food strikes it with its sharp bill. When tacked the heron instinctively aims at the eye of its adversary. Even a game cock has difficulty in protecting itself from the heron. The beak of this bird is sometimes set on the end of a stick and used as a spear. The body is rather compressed; the neck is very long and is well feathered. The wings and legs are long. The serrated middle claw is for removing from the bill the sticky down which is apt to adhere to it after cleaning the plumage. The nest is almost always built upon some elevated spot, as the top of a large tree or rocks near the coast. It is a large and clumsy-looking nest made of sticks and lined with wool. The nests are clustered near together for mutual protection. The eggs are from four to five in number and are of a pale green. The heron itself is gray running into black, and the plumage is dark slaty blue. The total length of the bird is about three feet. The heron is widely distributed. The Louisiana heron is called by Audubon the "Lady of the Waters." The American

varieties of the heron are sometimes seen as far north as Massachusetts. The heron was once one of the commonest English birds, but on account of the drainage of the swamps it is now seldom seen except in localities where the conditions are such that the birds can flourish.



**Kutho Daw.**  
Prof. Max Muller asks for money to photograph the inscriptions of the Kutho Daw, near Mandalay, in Burma, before they are destroyed. The Kutho Daw is a collection of over 700 Buddhist temples, each containing a white marble slab on which part of the Tripitaka, the great Buddhist Bible, is engraved; together they give the entire work, which consists of 275,200 stanzas, or 8,808,000 syllables—nearly fifteen times the bulk of our Old Testament. The language is the Pali of the fifth century before Christ, believed to have been spoken by Buddha; the characters are the Burmese letters, and the text was revised by a learned commission. The dampness of the climate is rapidly effacing the inscriptions.

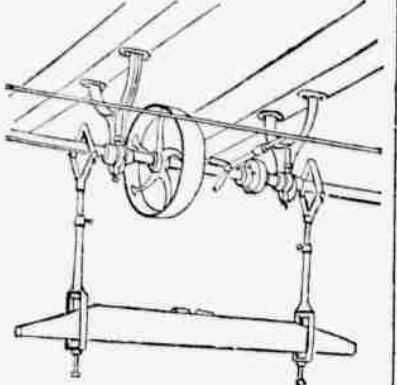
**An Electric Shock.**  
A curious accident occurred at Rochester, N. Y., June 26. Mr. Frank E. Grover foreman of the Rochester Gas and Electric Company, who is employed at the power house at the lower falls, received a shock from the brushes of a series wound continuous current dynamo carrying its full complement of 60 series are light street lamps. The electromotive force was thus nearly 3,000 volts. He was resuscitated after an hour and a quarter's hard work by a physician and three workmen. The men in the station had been made familiar with the D'Arsonval method, and they went to work at once to produce artificial respiration by raising and lowering the arms in rhythm and at the same time alternately pressing and releasing the chest. This was continued until a physician arrived. He ordered the treatment to be continued, though apparently the patient was dead. Shortly after Grover began to show signs of life and in a few minutes natural respiration set in and he soon was well enough to be sent home. The physician pronounced him out of danger. All agree he would have died had not artificial respiration been resorted to. There are many cases on record where death resulted from much less intense currents, while in some the voltage was as low as 500.

**The Notch of Venus.**  
A cable dispatch received at Harvard Observatory July 2, from Professor Weiss, in Vienna, calls attention to a notch near the south horn of Venus, and asks American observers to note its time of visibility and disappearance.

**Temperature of Sahara.**  
The highest temperature in the world is recorded in the great desert of Africa, where the thermometer often marks 150 degrees Fahrenheit.

### A Shaft Aligning Improvement.

To facilitate quickly and accurately running a line of shafting, irrespective of the different diameters of individual shafts in the line of pulleys, clutches, etc. A special tool is employed to measure the distance of the shaft from a stretched temporary cord, to find lateral discrepancies, and a pair of adjustable hangers supported on the shafting and carrying a level to find discrepancies at right angles to the temporary cord. The measuring tool to be applied at different points between the shafting and the cord consists of a tubular body having at its closed end arms adapted to straddle the shaft.



while in its open end a graduated bar is adjustable by means of a tapered thread and nut, to indicate the proper distance from the line of shafting to the temporary line. The hangers each consist of an angular loop, whose members are pivoted at one side and detachably connected at the other side, the loop being connected at its other end with a graduated bar sliding in a tube, where it is held in adjusted position by a thumb screw. Connected with the lower end of the tube by a swivel is an open head, with knife edges at its top and bottom, to support a spirit level or straight edge with a spirit level, the level being supported at its ends in the two heads shown in the illustration.

When the line of shafting to be leveled is supported from the floor, the hangers extend upwardly and the spirit level is supported upon the opposite knife edges of the open head, a detachable thumb screw and follower on the outer end of the head being then brought into use to clamp the hanger firmly to the straight edge or level.

### Jonah and the Incandescent Lamp.

One of the most interesting sights of New York City is a performance at one of the Jewish theaters on the Bowery, there being several near Canal street patronized exclusively by Russian Hebrews, in which the plays are produced in the Jewish-German-Russian jargon with a mediaeval crudity. Each theater has its own playwright, who, however, owing to the fondness of the audience for realistic scenes, has to divide the honors of the reproduction with the important person who creates the realistic accessories.

How important the functions of the latter are, says the Electrical World, will be evident from the following description of a scene from a play entitled "Jonah," produced at the Old Bowery Theater.

"After Jonah has been thrown overboard, for a moment," says the reporter, "it appears that nothing can save him. But, just as he is sinking for the last time, a great fish comes along, shaped something like a flounder, and depositing itself like a ball of rubber; it opens a very wide mouth and Jonah climbs in. Instantly the ship, which has been hammering the stage boards in its wild tossing, becomes still. The ball of rubber drops down from the flies, while the fish—which has disappeared behind the scenes—turns about and re-enters with a new side presented to the audience. This new side is as open as the day. Through an oval window in the whale's harboard quarter Jonah is disclosed sitting in great splendor of red and green, with glow lamps, and not a suggestion of discomfort."

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## AN EGYPTIAN HAREM.

### INTERESTING STORY OF AN AMERICAN GIRL.

She Became Governess to a Pasha's Children That She Might Learn the Secrets of the "Inner Veil"—Mahomedan Slavery.

(Special Correspondence.)

WHEN I went out to Egypt, a little more than eighteen months ago, it was with the determination to try and understand the harem lady. This I thought possible by making "calls" on certain pasha's wives whom I knew in and around Cairo but I soon discovered if I was really to know and understand the harem woman, as she veritably is, I must live with her as she herself lived in the harem. Having come to this conclusion I discussed the ways and means with a Turkish pasha of my acquaintance, who got me the necessary introduction, and in less than a month I obtained the post of governess to four little children in the harem of one of the best natured Egyptians in the interior of Egypt.



EDITH ARNOLD.

The word "harem," which has, to English ears, such an ominous sound, simply means in Arabic "females" or "women." I believe the original meaning was "forbidden." For an easterner to speak of women as women is highly improper. He must call them harems. The harem of a man is, therefore, the apartments set apart for the sole use of the women and their children. These are usually the whole of the first floor of the palace. No man may enter, not the husband, and sometimes not even the male relatives but I have known a case where the head of the harem would admit none of his male relatives into his harem. The harem usually consists of the wives, to the number of four; female slaves (these I speak of were black) and female free women, who were natives of lower Egypt. The slaves are the husband's property.

It is considered indelicate for a lady to allow any one but her husband to see her hair and unclean for any to grow upon her face or body. Indoors, therefore, if she respect herself, she wears a headdress which hides the hair, and is by no means unbecoming. When out in the carriage she, of course, allows only the eyes to be seen.

The harem lady is bound to be, from her bringing up, of a low type. Her only education is the idea to be the plaything of some rich man—that rich man, of course, being her legal husband. From babyhood she is taught certain exercises of her body, which, to any pure-minded European, are disgusting. She has no life outside her bath, her body, the visits of her husband, and, in a very mild way, her children. For recreation, a servant will take her for a drive, to call on another harem in the harem closed carriage, and, for amusement, a dancing-girl will be brought into the harem, or, if the house is in mourning, a sheikh will chant the Koran in the men's quarters, when the women gather on the harem terrace to listen. The room in which the dancing took place was a large entrance room in the harem, about seventy feet by sixty. Of this room were all the bed rooms. Each bedroom opened into this room, and there was no communication to the



OUT DOOR COSTUME.

bedrooms except through this room. It was furnished in the usual oriental divans all around the walls and floor cushions on the floor and a marble table in the center. The ghawazees, or dancing girls, would be sent for and, with much clatter of shoes, would waddle into this room, removing their outdoor clothing. Coffee, cigarettes and cognac would be handed them—the latter, as they say, to remove the veil of modesty from before their eyes! We

would all then recline on the divans, with cigarettes and coffee to hand and the slaves would fan us. An ex-dancing woman, who had grown too old to dance, would begin to beat the darabukeh, or drum, another would produce a most monotonous discord in excellent time on the kemengeh, a stringed instrument, while a third would blow through a sort of flute. The great point to each of them, so it seemed to me, was the time which the performer on the darabukeh seemed to have at her own disposal. When they had fairly warmed to their work a ghawaze would get up and, with a cigarette in her mouth, begin to dance.

What this dance is like it would be difficult for me to describe. A series of wriggles of the body to the time of the music, which begins slowly, gradually getting faster and faster, till one is fairly dazed, when the dancer suddenly throws herself on her back on a floor cushion, all the while wriggling to the music, which gets slower and slower till it stops. The dance usually lasts about half an hour, but I have seen one ghawaze who kept it up for an hour and a half, only stopping to wipe the perspiration from her face. One of these exhibitions is quite enough to disgust any American woman, no matter how broad-minded, but whenever the dancing girls come to the harem it is one of the duties of the governess to be present with her pupils that the little girls may learn to imitate the movements.

Should one of the ladies be indisposed she remains in her room. A slave places her ship-ship (the satin slippers worn in the house) outside her door. Then we would all go into her room, sit upon divans or floor cushions, drink the tiny cups of black coffee and smoke unlimited cigarettes and discuss the good qualities of the patient in low tones. If she were suffering pain one of the ladies would say, "God, who sent it to you, help you to bear it!" when we would all respond, "By the prophet, your talk is good." Then another silence would be broken by some one remarking, "Suffering was made by God, all praise to his name!" but it was meant for glants. But God also made death. Death is the finer work of the two." This latter saying was a very common one and my pupils of ten made use of it to me if I had a toothache or headache. It was always quoted as though it were quite original. The calm way they would leave the sick room, after assuring the occupant that "if she died the world would be a perfect blank to them," and then stolidly walk into the next room and abuse her roundly and with a fierceness which was horrible rather astonished me and showed me how little real sympathy they had one with another. Their jealousy of one another was fiendish in its intensity and I sympathized with the pasha when he said to me how happy Americans must be with no wives to quarrel over them!



INDOOR DRESS.

The great saving clause to the life in the harem for a European is the children. They are the most perfectly charming and straightforward little beings imaginable. How can I tell you of all their little tendernesses and politenesses? There was no acting or coquetry with them—they simply did not understand it. From the youngest to the oldest, too, their sense of logic was acute. Request one of these little darlings to do anything out of the ordinary routine and he will at once ask the logic for it. If you can give him a logical reason you may rest assured that that particular request will be obeyed always without further comment.

What strikes me is, what could we make of these little men and women if we had them from babyhood? How can we expect great things of a nation of men who are brought up and pass the most impressionable time of their lives with these harem women and their interests? It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle. Let me finish by telling you a little incident of harem child life which happened to me.

I was seated in my room one evening, weeping, when one of my pupils, a lad of about nine years, came in and, looking at me intently, said: "Why weepest thou?"

I replied: "For no reason." He continued to look at me for a second or two in a puzzled manner, and then a look of comprehension came into his wonderful black eyes and, mounting on a chair, he began carefully to remove the portraits of a dead relative of mine, placing them out of sight in my writing-desk. When he had finished he came to me and, embracing me warmly, said: "Madame, come into my room and see me dance."

EDITH HARRIET ARNOLD.

### A Just Rebuke.

Mrs. Fussy—I saw you coming out of a saloon, John, when I was in the next street shopping. Mr. Fussy—My dear, you shouldn't do your shopping in the neighborhood of saloons.